



## **Curriculum Intent**

At Arthur Bugler Primary School, the curriculum has been designed to encompass;

- the recognition of prior learning
- provide first hand learning experiences
- allow the children to develop interpersonal skills
- build resilience
- become creative, critical thinkers
- exciting and engaging learning opportunities, which are challenging and knowledge rich
- the school's locality and supportive and diverse community, using the rich opportunities and resources that are on our doorstep.

It builds upon children's prior knowledge and skills and is underpinned by the Co-Operative values of;

- Self-Help
- Self-Responsibility
- Democracy
- Equality
- Equity
- Solidarity

These are used to encourage positive attitudes to learning which reflect the values and skills needed to promote responsibility for learning and future success. The broad and balanced curriculum is designed to enable all children to become confident, enquiring and knowledge-thirsty learners, who will be prepared for each new stage of their education. Our curriculum provides children with a range of experiences to ignite curiosity, broaden cultural understanding and recognise their place individually, within the community and the wider world.

Our curriculum is built around the Cornerstones scheme, which we have adapted for our children. This is divided into four stages of Engage, Develop, Innovate and Express to build depth of learning. This structure provides a golden thread from Early Years to the end of Key Stage 2. Each Half Term has a different focus or 'theme' (topic) for the children to explore. While most learning is linked through the Half Termly themes, some subjects and learning is taught discretely.

## **Curriculum Implementation**

Our curriculum is implemented through a series of lessons which build on concepts, skills and knowledge. Each topic starts with a 'Wow' starter that is used to engage learners and build an interest right from the onset. The implementation is adapted to

specific learning needs in order to provide support and challenge, ensuring an inclusive curriculum that meets the needs of all our pupils.

Early Years' education follows the framework for EYFS and we use Cornerstones as a basis for topics which support this learning. Literacy and Mathematics are taught as discrete subjects but will often link to the themes chosen for each Cornerstones units. Activities are engaging and practical, building on individual starting points and key interests within the year group. Teaching is delivered through a balance of direct teaching and carefully planned, child initiated activities. Timely interventions from all adults are given to move individuals forward.

In Key Stages 1 & 2, we use Cornerstones as our curriculum driver for History, Geography, Music, Art and D&T. Other subjects are taught using schemes or resources such as SNAP Science, JIGSAW (PSHE), Computing (National Curriculum aims) and Rigolo/Early Start (French). Maths, Literacy, RE and PE are taught as discrete blocks. Our Literacy lessons are taught through high quality texts that are often linked to the Cornerstones topic or theme.

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular before and after school clubs which complement and further develop children's achievements in our curriculum; including football, drama, crochet, cooking, fencing and choir amongst many others. We have extremely high aspirations of all our children and skilfully use targeted support for our children who find learning and social situations a challenge at times. Clear and concise challenges are set across the curriculum for children who are ready for the next step in their learning.

### **Literacy**

We aim to deliver an exciting Literacy curriculum which is based around high quality texts that cover a variety of genres as well as Fiction, Non-Fiction and Poetry. We plan lessons which link reading and writing which then provides pupils with a rich and varied vocabulary for use in their work across the curriculum. We use a range of schemes to teach Literacy including Letters and Sounds, Jolly Phonics and Talk for Writing, as well as cross-curricular writing which is linked to the Cornerstones' topics.

We have developed a range of bespoke initiatives so that our children can be fully engaged in all aspects of Literacy. In order to promote reading and a real love of reading for pleasure the children keep a record of how many times they read each and aim to read 10 times in order to receive a 'Golden Ticket'. These are then collected in for the Friday assembly when the children find out which class has the most Golden Tickets. There is also a prize draw for Lower and Upper school and everyone that has a 'Golden Ticket' has the chance to win a £5 book voucher.

Our children also have the opportunity to take part in 'Cosy Reading' and 'Free Writing' on a Friday. 'Cosy Reading' allows the children to read whatever they want in any position they want developing a real love of reading and reading for pleasure. The whole school also enjoys 'Free Writing' on a Friday allowing them to write for 30 minutes about anything they want to with no learning objective or success criteria for the children to follow.

The school has number of excellent links with authors who are willing to visit the school and speak to the children about being an author and the books they have published. These inspirational visit bring learning to life and allow the children to be hooked into reading and then writing as a follow up to the visit.

Arthur Bugler also has a 'Patron of Writing', who is an ex pupil and local author having published 3 books – Emma Robinson. This wonderful project provides opportunities for the children to be taught by Emma and discuss the process of writing a book. The children can also share their work with Emma on one of her many visits.

There is a yearly 'Reading & Writing' Week where there are a range of planned activities to promote reading and writing throughout the school.

## **Maths**

We aim to help children to develop as confident mathematicians with fluent arithmetic skills that can be applied to problem solving and reasoning about mathematical concepts. We follow the White Rose Maths Curriculum and teach Maths mainly through discrete learning units. There is a strong focus on consolidating arithmetic skills as well as reasoning to ensure the children can apply knowledge, skills and understanding in a range of contexts. The process of teaching Maths begins by exploring the concept by using concrete materials. This is then followed by transferring this knowledge into pictorial representations of a concept. A deeper understanding is developed with opportunities for the children to explain and justify their mathematical reasoning. Finally this knowledge is transferred and applied into abstract contexts including real life situations.

We have developed a range of bespoke initiatives so that our children can be fully engaged in all aspects of Maths. These include 'Early Bird Maths' and a 'Times Table Rockstars Competition' each week. The children start 3 out of the 5 days in a week with 'Early Bird Maths' where they complete a range of arithmetic question at the very start of the day. Throughout the course of the year, the children will complete thousands of questions covering all areas of the curriculum.

There is also a weekly Times table Rockstars Competition in Assembly where the children compete for the Championship title and could win an Amazon voucher. This is focused on improving the children's rapid recall of times tables.

There is a yearly Maths Week where there are a range of planned activities to promote Maths throughout the school.

## **Science**

Science is taught mainly through the use of the Collins' Snap Science scheme and supplemented with science lessons which link to the current Cornerstones themes. Science is taught through the broad range of enquiry skills (working scientifically); observing over time; pattern seeking; identifying, classifying and grouping; comparative and fair testing (controlled investigations); and researching using secondary sources. Pupils have access to Science learning outside the classroom in our animal, nature and pond areas.

There is a yearly Science Week where there are a range of planned activities to promote Science throughout the school.

### **History**

History is woven through many of the cornerstones topics and is taught through the use of the Cornerstones implementation process. Pupils are encouraged to ask and enquire about the past and seek to find answers through a range of resources including researching, evaluating evidence and artefacts and using first hand experiences and evidence such as visitors and artefacts. The school makes use of some local history through topics within the Cornerstones curriculum.

### **Geography**

The Geography curriculum is taught through the Cornerstones implementation and links to other areas of learning as well as progressing through year groups and phases. Pupils have access to local area and resources to support their fieldwork skills within the curriculum. Use of ICT, including Google Earth, is used to bring other areas of the world to life.

### **Religious Education (RE)**

The school follows the Thurrock agreed syllabus for RE and there are discrete units of learning. The curriculum provides pupils with a broad and clear knowledge of the key faiths, teaching them to respect the views and faiths of others. The school has strong links with the local church who regularly visit the school to deliver assemblies.

### **Music**

Music is currently taught through the Cornerstones topic overview. In addition to this, all pupils in Year 4 and 5 have the opportunity to learn to play a brass instrument, learning to read and follow musical notation, as well as performing to an audience. Pupils have the opportunity to learn to play a variety of musical instruments through the wider opportunities programme. The enjoyment of music is further supported through the use of singing in assemblies and during the performances to parents and other audiences at various events, including the Christmas carol service, the Harvest performance and Easter celebrations. This love of singing is extended to our community with an 'Adult Choir' led by school staff as well as the Award winning school choir who have a strong reputation within the community.

### **Physical Education (PE)**

Physical Education is taught through the Rising Star Curriculum. Lessons are taught by the class teacher and by our PE Lead. The lessons include learning new skills with the opportunity to apply these in a range of contexts. All pupils in Year 3 have access to a block of 10 swimming lessons, at a local swimming pool. As a school we take part in the Daily Mile and each class walks for a mile each day. In recognition of our commitment to promoting a healthy lifestyle, we have been awarded the Silver School Games Mark award. There is an annual Sports, Health and Fitness week which provides pupils with a range of sporting opportunities.

## **Art**

The Art curriculum is planned and delivered through the Cornerstones Curriculum, providing children with a wide range of skills using a variety of media, including 3D sculpture. Pupils have the opportunity to explore different artists and styles of Art. Pupils also take part in a range of local and national competitions and have the opportunity to display their art work, in class and throughout the school and within the local community.

## **Design & Technology**

This is taught through the Cornerstones Curriculum, enabling pupils to investigate, plan, make and evaluate products, including food technology as part of their linked learning. Each year, the children have the opportunity to take part in a healthy eating and food preparation workshop called Roots to Food.

## **French**

French is taught in Key Stage 2, through the Riglo and Early Start schemes of work. Children have the opportunities to learn about other countries, cultures and languages during Multicultural week.

## **Computing**

Skills and application of computing are taught through a progressive set of ICT skills and, where appropriate, are used in Cornerstones lessons. Computing is split into three areas: computer science, information technology and digital learning. There is a strong focus on e-safety as a school leading the way nationally and our children are ambassadors for the work that they do. The school is well resourced with desktop computers, laptops and iPads. As a school we act as a link between the range of ICT used at home and we promote a range of devices, apps and websites to support the learning process.

## **Personal, Social, & Health Education (PSHE)**

This is taught discretely through a range of lessons and activities. The planned curriculum is derived from the Jigsaw planning and resources. Other discrete lessons are delivered in response to children's needs and local and national incidents. In addition, the pupils in Year 5 and 6 are taught about relationships and sex education.

## **Curriculum Impact**

The impact from our exciting and engaging curriculum is best shown through discussions with the children as they absolutely love their learning which is shown in their work and excellent attendance rates.

It is also evident in the outcome for our pupils, where attainment is at least in line with National expectations. Progress from attainment on entry (which is just below National



Expectations) to attainment in line or above National Expectations by the end of KS2 is Good.

This is what our children, staff and parents say about our curriculum:

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Here are some photos showing just how exciting and engaging our curriculum is:



September 2019